

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/844,043

Examiner

Jean M. Corrielus

Applicant(s)

HARVEY, RICHARD HANS

Art Unit

2162

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the examiner's amendment filed on March 31, 2008.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-9,12-17,20-22,24-28 and 31-36, renumbered as 1-27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                                |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                              | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material        | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance             |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____.  |

/Jean M Corrielus/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the amendment filed on December 11, 2007, in which claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-22, 24-28 and 31-36 are presented for further examination.

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Chad D. Terrell (Reg. No. 52,279) on March 31, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **In the Claim:**

28. (Currently amended) A directory services arrangement comprising:

One or more memory operable to store a plurality of tables, each table comprising a plurality of rows and columns, operable to store arbitrary data, at least one of the tables comprising information for resolving filters that comprise at least one filter item in a search service; and

One or more processing unit operable to:

Execute a condition tester operable to determine:

Whether each filter item comprises a NOT connective; and

whether each filter item comprises a type only filter item or a type and value filter item;  
and

the directory services arrangement operable to apply, if a determination is made that the filter item comprises a NOT connective and a type only filter item, apply a logical methodology to evaluate the filter item, the logical methodology comprising expanding an expression of the filter item so that the filter item does not comprise the NOT connective.

36. (Currently amended) Software for processing a database service query, the software being embodied in on a computer-readable medium and ~~when executed operable to~~ having instructions for causing a processor to perform operations, comprising:

~~receive~~ receiving a service query, the service query comprising a filter comprising one or more filter items;

~~expand~~ expanding the filter;

~~apply~~ applying a condition test to each filter item of the filter, the condition test comprising:

determining if the filter item comprises a NOT connective; and

determining if the filter item comprises one of a type only filter item or a type and value filter item; and

if a determination is made that the filter item comprises a NOT connective and a type only filter item, ~~apply~~ applying a logical methodology to evaluate the filter item, the logical methodology comprising expanding an expression of the filter item so that the filter item does not comprise the NOT connective.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-22, 24-28 and 31-36 are allowable in light of the Applicant's arguments and in light of the prior art made of record.

***Reasons for Indicating Allowable Subject Matter***

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that "if a determination is made that the filter item comprises a NOT connective and a type only filter item, apply a logical methodology to evaluate the filter item, the logical methodology comprising expanding an expression of the filter item so that the filter item does not comprise the NOT connective" in conjunction with all other limitations of the dependent and independent claims are not taught nor suggested by the prior art of record (PTO-892 and 1449). Therefore, all pending claims 1, 4-9, 12-17, 20-22, 24-28 and 31-36 are hereby allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

***Conclusion***

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean M. Corrielus whose telephone number is (571) 272-4032.

The examiner can normally be reached on 10 hours shift.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jean M Corrielus/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

April 17, 2008